



Department
for International
Development



Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt MP
Secretary of State

Kender Primary School

Our Ref: 186643

10 September 2018

Dear Head Teacher,

I am writing to thank you for your school's participation in DFID's Connecting Classrooms and/or Global Learning Programme in recent years.

I am writing today to encourage you to sign up to our new development education programme, [Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning](#), in partnership with the British Council. This brings together the most effective and popular elements of our previous programmes and aims to create partnerships between schools across the UK and those in developing countries. This will encourage pupils to learn about the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) and take part in projects and activities to address issues connected with these. It will give children in the UK the opportunity to act as ambassadors and learn about the world, while providing training and resources for teachers and pupils in both the UK and some of the world's poorest and most challenging places.

I will personally launch the new programme on 13 September, together with England's Secretary of State for Education (we will aim to hold similar launch events over the coming months in the devolved administrations). The launch event will take place in a school in London which has participated in the Connecting Classrooms programme for a number of years, and which has formed a strong and lasting relationship with its partner school in Jordan.

I am sure my colleagues in Parliament would also appreciate the opportunity to see global learning and partnerships in action in their constituency's schools. I would therefore encourage you to invite your local MP to visit your school, ideally as soon as possible after 13 September so that your MP's visit can feed into our national communications following the launch. I will also contact my parliamentary colleagues to draw their attention to the new programme and encourage them to accept to your invitation. A template letter to send to your MP, and a press release that can be used during the visit can be found online at <https://tinyurl.com/DFID-CCGL>. Please feel free to personalise and adapt these materials (but please note that all publicity related to the launch of the programme is strictly embargoed until 1200 on the Friday).

I would be grateful if you could inform us in advance of any visits so we can follow up with local journalists where necessary; please email schools@britishcouncil.org.

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